GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1948
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2001
SMUGGLING OF CIGARETTES VIA NEPAL
HARIBHAU MAHALE;PUTTASWAMY GOWDA;RUDRAGOUDA PATIL

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of foreign brand cigarettes are being smuggled into the country every year via Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated loss incurred by the Government on this account; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check such smuggling activities and to save the domestic cigarettes industry?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (REVENUE) IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) & (b): No, Sir.

(c) : Does not arise in view of (a) & (b) above.

(d) : All the field formations of Customs Departmentincluding D.R.I.have been instructed to remain vigilant and alert t o check smuggling of contraband goods including cigarettes.